**Tour of North Africa, Southwest Asia, and Central Asia: Partner PowerPoint Project**

**Partner:**

**Our country:**

**Essential Questions:**

How does the geography shape this region?

What would it be like to live in this part of the world?

What should we know about this particular country?

What is this country’s relationship like with other countries in the region?

**Introduction/Expectations:** Our hope is that we can engage in a “country study” with each new region we learn about. Our current region of study is North Africa, Southwest Asia, and Central Asia. For a list of countries please see page 418 in the new textbook. You and a partner will be developing an informational PowerPoint on one country from this region. Just like before, each group in the class will be focusing on a different country. I will determine the pairs so that I can attempt to match novice PowerPoint users with experts in this area.

**Please view the recommended PowerPoint layout:**

The focus of each slide should relate to the topic listed next to the slide number.

**Slide #1: Title slide**

* Title
* Names
* Graphic

**Slide #2: The Land**

* Location
* Landforms
* Water systems
* Natural Resources
* Graphics

**Slide #3: Same as above**

**Slide #4: Climate/Vegetation**

* Native Wildlife
* Common Vegetation

**Slide #5: Government**

* Political Leaders
* Type of Government
* Life Expectancy
* Population

**Slide #6: History & Current Events**

* 2 Important Historical Events
* At least 1 Current Event

**Slide #7: Economy**

* Type of Industry
* Major Exports
* Literacy Rate
* Currency

**Slide #8: Culture**

* Traditional Clothing
* Traditional Foods
* Language(s) Spoken
* Religion(s) Practiced
* Architecture/Building Styles

**Slide #9: Places to Visit**

* Tourist Attractions
* Significant Historical Sites
* Graphics

**Slide #10: Works Cited**

* Web sites: Include web address and the date accessed (when you visited the site)
* Books: Include the title, author, and date published

When gathering information related to your country, I would recommend the following websites:

* BBC Country Profiles: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/country_profiles/default.stm>
* National Geographic: <http://travel.nationalgeographic.com/places/index.html>
* CIA World Factbook: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>
* The Economist: <http://www.economist.com/countries/>
* Country at a Glance: http://cyberschoolbus.un.org/infonation/index.asp
* County Images: <http://www.pics4learning.com/>
* What time it is in your country?: <http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/custom.html?sort=1&low=c>
* Flags: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/docs/flagsoftheworld.html>

**Grading:** We have two rubrics related to this assignment: one for your work with your partner and the other for the PowerPoint/presentation. This assignment is worth a total of 105 points.

**McFadden’s 5 Keys to Success:**

* Follow the layout
* No lengthy paragraphs on your slides
* Images should be the only items that you copy and paste
* Use your time wisely (If computers are available, you and your partner can be on different computers.)
* Information first, then animations

# Group Rubric

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **7** | **5** | **3** | **1** |
| **Time/Effort** | Class time was used very wisely. Much time and effort went into the planning and creation of the PowerPoint. | Class time was used adequately. Much time and effort went into the planning and creation of the PowerPoint. | Class time was not always used wisely. More time and/or effort could have been put into the planning and creation of the PowerPoint. | Class time was not used wisely. Little time and effort was put into the planning and creation of the PowerPoint. |
| **Cooperative Learning** | Group members continually worked cooperatively, respecting the ideas and contributions of others. | Group members almost always worked cooperatively, respecting the ideas and contributions of others. | Group members occasionally worked cooperatively, respecting the ideas and contributions of others. | Group members rarely worked cooperatively. Members did not respect the ideas and contributions of others. |

**Total: /14**

**PowerPoint Rubric**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **13** | **9** | **5** | **2** |
| **Number of Slides** | PowerPoint contains at least 10 slides related to the topic. | PowerPoint contains 8-9 slides related to the topic. | PowerPoint contains 6-7 slides related to the topic. | PowerPoint contains less than 6 slides related to the topic. |
| **Subject Knowledge** | Subject knowledge is greatly evident throughout the PowerPoint. Information is clear, appropriate, and correct. | Subject knowledge is evident in the PowerPoint. Information is clear, appropriate, and correct. | Some subject knowledge is somewhat evident. Information is confusing or inaccurate. | Subject knowledge is not evident. Information is very confusing or inaccurate. |
| **Focus** | PowerPoint is relevant to the assigned topic and provides a very effective overview. | PowerPoint is relevant to the assigned topic and provides an effective overview. | PowerPoint drifts from the assigned topic or does not provide an effective overview. | PowerPoint is not closely related to the assigned topic. |
| **Appearance** | PowerPoint is exceptionally attractive in terms of design, layout, and neatness. Pictures and graphics go well with the text. | PowerPoint is attractive in terms of design, layout and neatness. Pictures and graphics go well with the text. | PowerPoint is acceptably attractive, yet it may appear cluttered. Pictures relate to the text, but there are too few or too many. | PowerPoint is poorly designed. Layout is cluttered or confusing. Pictures and other graphics do not relate to the text. |
| **Grammar & Spelling** | Text contains no errors in grammar and/or spelling. | Text contains few errors that do not interfere with comprehension. | Text contains several errors that limit comprehension. | Text contains too many errors that greatly impact comprehension. |
| **Text Elements** | Fonts are easy-to-read and point size varies. Use of italics, bold, and indentations enhances readability. Text is appropriate in length. Background colors enhance the readability. | Fonts are easy-to-read. Appropriate use of italics, bold, and indentations. Text is appropriate in length. Background colors enhance the readability. | Fonts are occasionally easy-to-read. Use of fonts, italics, bold, or background colors may detract from readability. Text may include lengthy paragraphs. | Text is often difficult to read. Inappropriate use of fonts, italics, bold, or background colors. Readability is difficult with lengthy paragraphs or lack of headings. |
| **Presentation** | Students effectively share PowerPoint with the rest of the class. Presenters share each of the required elements (See slide layout). Each group member contributes equally to presentation. | Students share PowerPoint with the rest of the class. Presenters share each of the required elements (See slide layout). | Students share PowerPoint with the rest of the class. Presentation is missing one of the required elements (See slide layout). | Students share the poster with the rest of the class. Presentation is missing more than one of the required elements (See slide layout). |

**Total: /91**  **Grand Total: /105**